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THOMAS G. NEWMAN, } EDITORS.  
GEORGE W. YORK,

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## EDITORIAL BUZZINGS.

Women are angels here below,  
For man's blessedness given;  
Their smiles of joy, their tears of woe,  
Bless as they shine, pain as they flow—  
They are creatures born of Heaven.

Mr. F. C. Morrow, of Wallaceburg, Ark., has sent us a sample of Italian queen-bees with attendant bees, which are quite yellow and nice.

**Women Bee-Keepers** of the State of Illinois are requested to send their names and addresses on postal cards to Mrs. Thos. F. Gane, 425 La Salle Avenue, Chicago, Ills., saying that they are bee-keepers. Mrs. Gane is Vice-President of a woman's organization connected with the World's Fair, and desires to get statistics on bee-culture, poultry-raising, or any other semi-agricultural pursuit in which women are interested.

### Warned Against Small-Pox

—We have received from the Illinois State Board of Health a letter calling attention to the recent cases of small-pox in New York, Chicago, and Pittsburg, and suggesting that rigorous precautions be at once taken to prevent any further outbreaks. The communication recites the fact that an epidemic would result in great loss. It includes by insisting on the rigid enforcement of the vaccination ordinances as a means of prevention.

The Board of Health at Springfield, Ills., will furnish, throughout the State, carefully selected, reliable vaccine at actual wholesale cost, accompanying each package with plain, practical instructions for the operation. To communities unable to purchase vaccine, if any such there be, it will be furnished gratuitously on proper representation of the facts, and an agreement to report results on the blanks furnished by the board.

**Self-Hiving Arrangements** are receiving much attention by progressive bee-keepers now-a-days, and they will doubtless receive a great deal more before they are made to do perfectly the work for which they are intended. Mr. C. H. Dibbern, in the *Western Plowman*, writes thus of his efforts to improve and perfect the device for the self-hiving of swarms:

During the present season we are in hopes of perfecting the self-hiver, so that it can be used without much after manipulation. We believe that we now have it so that this can be accomplished, but one can never be sure until it has been in actual use. Somehow the bees have decided notions of their own, and will often persistently refuse to do the very thing we think they ought to do. We shall try all the different plans that have been suggested during the past winter and spring; but we are very sure that some of the devices will not work at all. We shall do our best to perfect our own device, and now confidently expect to give something definite in a very short time.

**Comb-Foundation Makers.**

—A letter of correction and apology is received from Prof. H. W. Wiley, Washington, D. C., June 27, as follows:

**EDITORS AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL,**

*Dear Sirs:* — In the list of manufacturers of comb and comb foundation published in Bulletin 13, Part 6, page 866, is included the name of Thomas G. Newman & Son, Chicago, Ills. I regret that anything we have published should do any injustice to any person or firm, by making any statement concerning that which is not true.

The AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL of May 26, page 696, says that Thomas G. Newman never manufactured an ounce of "comb" in his life, or even comb foundation. According to this statement his name should not have been included in the list, and I am sorry it was done.

The information on which his name was included in the list is found in the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL May, 1890, page 175, and is entitled, "Advance in Price of Comb Foundation," which says, "On and after this day the price of comb foundation is advanced 5 cents per pound, both wholesale and retail, on account of the scarcity and consequently enhanced value of beeswax." Signed: "Chas. Dadant & Son, Thomas G. Newman & Son."

The AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL of June 4, 1890, page 14, under the head of "Beeswax Wanted," occurs the following: "We will pay 24 cents per pound in cash for yellow beeswax delivered here." Signed: "Thomas G. Newman & Son." It appears that we were justified in including Mr. Newman as a manufacturer, by the language of these two advertisements.

There was no intention whatever of doing Mr. Newman an injustice, and therefore I beg you to insert this article in your columns. I am, Respectfully,

H. W. WILEY, Chemist.

With pleasure we publish the foregoing explanation and apology, and are indeed glad to know that Prof. Wiley intended no injustice in the matter.

We showed the above letter to Thos. G. Newman & Son, and as they desired to say something further on the subject, we publish their comments as follows:

It is needless to say that we are glad to see the foregoing apology. In further explanation, we would remark that on page 696 it was asserted that Prof.

Wiley's official pamphlet was "full of blunders and misrepresentations," and in proof of this, the fact was cited that, on page 866, in a "list of Manufacturers of Comb Foundation," such extensive manufacturers as A. I. Root and J. Van Deusen & Sons were entirely omitted, while Thomas G. Newman & Son (who are only dealers, and not manufacturers), are included.

As neither of the proofs cited above contain one word about the manufacture of comb foundation or anything else, the Professor was certainly not "justified" in his assertions.

But we are glad to learn in his last paragraph that the Professor had "no intention whatever of doing Mr. Newman an injustice." Had this matter been the only thing to complain of, no further notice would be taken of his unfortunate blunders. We hope that he will now correct all the other inaccuracies and misrepresentations, which abound in the pamphlet, many of which were pointed out on pages 696 and 697 of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL.

THOMAS G. NEWMAN & SON.

**Patent Bee-Hive Men** are again on the road. Mr. Wm. Housel, of Wertsville, N. J., writes us as follows concerning a certain hive being sold in his neighborhood:

Please answer through the BEE JOURNAL, whether there is a patent on a beehive called the "Burheim hive." There has been a man canvassing and selling rights through this part of the country, and a great many persons have bought of him.

Wm. HOUSEL.

We know nothing of such a hive ever being patented—at least we never have seen any record of it. It is always safer to buy and use only such hives as are endorsed by practical apiarists.

**In Going Over** the July magazines, all Western readers will turn at once to Franklin H. Head's article on "The Heart of Chicago," in the current *New England Magazine*. It shows the metropolitan characteristics of Chicago as they have not been shown before; and its contemporaneity is the best record of the city's progress. It is finely illustrated by J. O. Hatfield, Charles H. Woodbury, and others.

**Kind Words** from our old friends and co-laborers are not only very encouraging, but are fully appreciated as well. We are not entirely out of the work, but are released from some of the arduous labors which have for years been wearing upon our constitution. The following, from a few of our most intimate friends, are prized beyond utterance:

**MY DEAR OLD FRIEND** :—With the change of firm name, it seemed as if my old friend Newman had gone away off, and I didn't feel quite reconciled to it. For so long a time we had worked and counseled together, and I had never felt afraid to express my inside thoughts, knowing that we were both working honestly for whatever might be best for the fraternity, and that everything I said would be honestly interpreted. Still, I am glad you can throw some of the care off your shoulders, and I am glad to have one like friend York take up the burden. Blessings on you.

C. C. MILLER, M. D.

Marengo, Ills.

**FRIEND NEWMAN** :—It is with regret that I learn that through ill-health you have found it advisable to sell out your interest in the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL. Yours has been a long service, well done, and you retire with the best wishes of a vast circle of friends, earnest and appreciative.

I hope that you may be yet spared many years to aid us by your pen, by your counsel, and by your interest in our pursuit. Few, indeed, could have labored with so unselfish purpose in the interest of bee-keepers as you have done for the many long years I have known you. You will have your reward for these years of earnest labor, and when the great future unfolds the new life, there will be hosts of warm friends to congratulate you, as well as hosts on this side of life to appreciate and profit by your long and faithful labors.

My best wishes will ever go with you, as one of my best and truest friends.

G. L. TINKER, M. D.

New Philadelphia, Ohio.

**FRIEND NEWMAN** :—I learned with regret that the state of your health was such that you were obliged to give up the helm of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL. I know you must regret it also, for the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL is really your "adopted child." When you took hold

of it, it was a babe in swaddling clothes, and puny enough at that—so puny, in fact, that if the life you instilled into it, had not given it fresh vigor, it would have died long ago. I began it with the late Mr. Wagner, dropped it for about a year, and have kept with it since about the time you took it. That it has done well, there is no need for me to say to you. Its manly, independent tone has endeared it to the heart of every bee-keeper of consequence. I only trust that Mr. York will keep it up to the mark and condition in which you have left.

Please accept my best wishes for your future, and allow me to express the hope that you will soon recuperate, and get back as near to your former condition of health as may be expected in your older years. For I can see that while age may give discretion and judgment, it wears terribly on the "narves." The Home Journal is work enough for you. May your lives run in pleasant places,

Jos. E. POND.

North Attleboro, Mass.

As intimated by Brother Pond, the Home Journal will furnish all the employment I should have, and hereafter my energies will be devoted to it. My health has improved since the vacation I took, and the subsequent disposal of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL. By lessened care and labor, fewer hours at my desk, and more spent in the open air, I hope to recruit and be more like the former

THOMAS G. NEWMAN.

#### Bees and Grafting-Wax.—

Mr. Henry Wilson, of Clinton, Ills., on June 25, 1892, wrote as follows about bees stealing grafting-wax, the subject of Query No. 824, which was published with answers on page 828 of the BEE JOURNAL for June 23, 1892:

To keep the bees from stealing the wax from grafts, wrap any kind of paper around the wax when freshly put on, so it will stick. Thin paper is better than thick, and it should be white, so the wax will be cooler. I have had the bees to take it off only one season, but I always wrap the grafts, as it is a great benefit to them, even when the bees do not touch the wax.

My bees have done nothing this season so far.

HENRY WILSON.

**The Pure Food Bill**, which is now before Congress, should receive the hearty support of all who favor everything pure and undefiled, especially when it comes to what we eat. Mr. John H. Larrabee, Field Agent of the Michigan Agricultural College, and experimenter in bee-culture, wrote us as follows, on June 29, in regard to bee-keepers helping to make the Pure Food Bill a law:

DEAR EDITORS:—I enclose a form of a letter that may, with justice and propriety, be sent by every reader of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL to his Representative or Senator in Congress. Should one-half of the subscribers of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL mail such a letter to their Representatives, it would without doubt prove a powerful lever in securing the passage of this law. It is not a political Bill—it can scarcely be made such. Its provisions are wholesome and needed. It will help all political parties alike, and will harm only those engaged in wrong-doing. During this year of political excitement, such a letter would have unusual weight. Let us all unite in our own business interests on this matter. J. H. LARRABEE.

The following is a copy of the letter mentioned by Mr. Larrabee in the foregoing, to be mailed to your Representative and Senator at Washington, D. C.:

DEAR SIR:—I understand that the Paddock Pure Food Bill is before Congress. May I urge upon you to support it in the interests of, and in justice to, the producers of honest food? Bee-keepers all over the land are much interested in its passage, and regardless of party, urge its justice, and the need of it. Please consider your interests, and the interests of the people you represent, and, so far as you can, consistently and honorably, use your vote and influence in this good cause. I am,  
Respectfully yours,

Now, let all who read this, write out the above sample letter, and mail it at once to their Representative, and also to their Senator, in Congress. Do not delay this important matter, but do it now!

This Bill is of great interest to bee-keepers, and our pursuit will be greatly

benefited thereby. Honey adulterators, as well as all others of the nefarious class, will be discovered and brought mercilessly to justice, and the public protected from the diabolical practice of unscrupulous and depraved specimens of mankind who live and fatten by deception and fraud. Bee-keepers can help to down these infamous parasites of humanity, by compelling their political representatives to carry out the will of their constituents, or take the consequences. Write to them now!

**Bees from India** are likely to be imported soon, now that the Government has begun to take an interest in the matter. We hope that the article on page 47, by Mr. Frank Benton (who is now employed by our Government at Washington), will be read by all. Bee-keepers, as Bro. Root has well said, "owe a vote of thanks in advance to Prof. C. V. Riley and Hon. Edwin Willits, and congratulate them on being able to secure the services of so experienced a man for the work as Frank Benton." All will await with much interest the results of the experiments on the part of the Government in our behalf, and hope that much practical benefit, as well as scientific knowledge, may come from such an effort.

**Not to Belong** to a Woman's World's Fair committee is now regarded by titled and aristocratic European women as a positive lack of distinction. Indeed, the interest in the Exposition displayed by prominent and influential women in most of the European countries, is truly remarkable. The exhibit of woman's work is sure to be very comprehensive and complete, and, it is believed, surprising. Good for the women!

**Why Not** send us one new name, with \$1.00, and get Doolittle's book on "Scientific Queen-Rearing" as a premium? Read the offer on page 37.

## THE WORLD'S FAIR FORESTRY BUILDING.

The Forestry Building is in appearance the most unique of all the Exposition structures. Its dimensions are 200 by 500 feet. To a remarkable degree its architecture is of the rustic order.

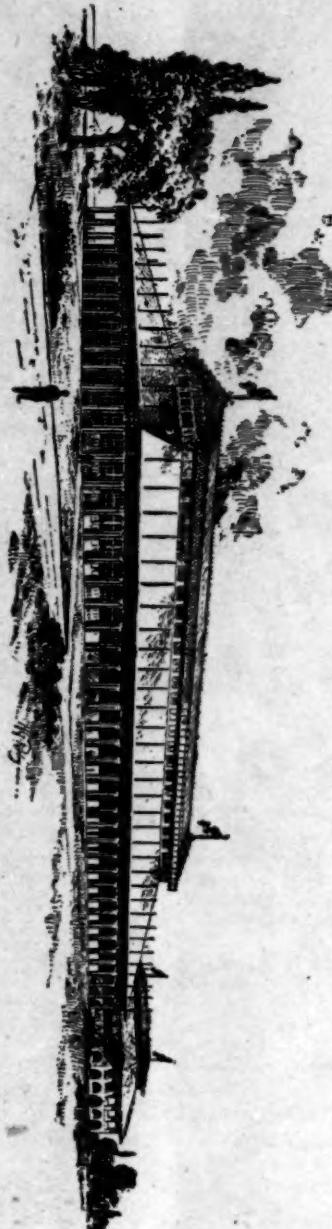
On all four sides of the building is a veranda, supporting the roof—which is a colonnade consisting of a series of columns composed of three tree-trunks each 25 feet in length, one of them from 16 to 20 inches in diameter and the others smaller. All of these trunks are left in their natural state, with bark un-disturbed. They are contributed by the different States and Territories of the

Union and by foreign countries, each furnishing specimens of its most characteristic trees.

The sides of the building are constructed of slabs with the bark removed. The window frames are treated in the same rustic manner as is the rest of the building.

The main entrances are elaborately furnished in different kinds of wood, the material and workmanship being contributed by several prominent lumber associations. The roof is thatched with tan and other barks.

The visitor can make no mistake as to exhibits inside.



the kind of tree-trunks which form the colonnade, for he will see upon each a tablet upon which is inscribed the common and scientific name, the State or country from which the trunk was contributed, and other pertinent information, such as the approximate quantity of such timber in the region whence it came.

Surmounting the cornice of the veranda, and extending all around the buildings, are numerous flagstaffs bearing the colors, coats-of-arms, etc., of the nations and States represented in the

## QUERIES AND REPLIES.

### Standard Grades for Comb Honey.

**Query 826.**—1. Is it desirable and feasible to have standard grades for comb honey? 2. If so, how many grades? 3. Epitomize your idea regarding it, if possible.—RANDOLPH.

No.—MRS. L. HARRISON.

I am not competent to answer the above questions.—M. MAHIN.

1. Yes. 2. Not more than about three grades.—C. H. DIBBERN.

1. Yes. 2. Three grades. 3. "Fancy," No. 1 and No. 2.—H. D. CUTTING.

I think it will be hard to get a set of grades to suit all locations.—E. FRANCE.

3. It is hardly possible. Most beekeepers will follow their own inclinations.—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

See late numbers of the various bee-periodicals. I have my doubts. Men differ so much.—A. J. COOK.

1. It would be very desirable, but exceedingly difficult to perfect a plan that would suit all locations.—J. P. H. BROWN.

1. Yes. 2. "I don't know." 3. I don't want to. I havn't time to fool away on something I know so little about.—A. B. MASON.

We fear it will be difficult to come to an understanding. We are willing to accept what the majority may wish as standard.—DADANT & SON.

1. It is feasible, and perhaps desirable. 2. About five, as follows: Fancy, No. 1 White, No. 1 Amber; No. 2 White, No. 2 Amber.—R. L. TAYLOR.

1. Yes. 2. Two. 3. So much has been written upon this subject recently, that I should not feel justified in taking space here to repeat it.—MRS. J. N. HEATER.

1. It is desirable, whether feasible or not. It is feasible, too, I think. 2. As few grades as possible. 3. This matter has already been discussed fully in the bee-papers.—EUGENE SECOR.

2. I would have but two grades. 3. The finely capped combs with best quality of honey should constitute 1st grade. All other combs should go into 2d grade.—G. L. TINKER.

1. It is certainly desirable, and I think feasible. 2. I don't know. It will take some discussion to decide. 3. Have grades independent of color or quality, and then add the latter.—C. C. MILLER.

1. Yes. 2. I think four are all that are desirable. 3. My ideas on the subject have been given already in the various bee-periodicals too fully and frequently to repeat them here.—JAMES A. GREEN.

1. No. Honey is a *natural* product, and I protest against the thoughtless attempt to put honey on a level with the painted trash of the dishonest adulterators. Nature alone can grade honey.—G. W. DEMAREE.

1. Yes; and also to keep the honey well up to that grade. 2. I think three, though more may perhaps in some cases be advisable. 3. 1st grade, the finest; 2d grade, good, but with some imperfect cells, and a little discolored; 3d, dark, though clean.—J. E. POND.

1. I think that the person running machinery is the one to improve it, as well as the manufacturer of machinery; so I would refer you to some of the large dealers in comb honey. 2. From my judgment, I would say three grades 3. I do not feel able to abridge the idea.—MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY.

I have given this lately-agitated subject no thought. I would imagine, however, that different bee-keepers would have about 20 different grades in each "grade," so that, after all, no one could tell where one grade left off and another began. The buyers must fix grades in their minds, and they grade our honey themselves, the same as wheat, etc.—JAMES HEDDON.

1. Yes. 3. Where every section is perfect, call it "Gilt Edge;" where a little at variance, call it No. 1. Rough and partially filled, stained, etc., No. 2; always naming the kind of honey in connection with the grade. For instance: Should your honey be clover, grade it as gilt-edge clover honey; No. 1 clover honey; and No. 2 clover honey. With other kinds, let them be graded likewise.—J. M. HAMBAUGH.

1. Yes. 3. Grade according to the rules of the North American Bee-Keepers' Association. Two grades of white honey, one of mixed (light and dark), including fall flowers, which is almost always mixed with early honey, and one grade for buckwheat honey. Good, pleasant flavor, of course, is always un-

derstood with white honey. The Western member of the Albany committee did not meet with us, and I have been informed since that very large quantities of yellow or saffron colored sealing is produced in the prairie States. If so, it may be necessary to make another grade for this. The small quantity usually produced in the East, can be put into the mixed grade.—P. H. ELWOOD.

It is both desirable and feasible to grade comb honey, and standard "rules" should be agreed upon, and generally adopted. We fully believe in the rule of the majority. The united wisdom of those in attendance at the North American Convention temporarily settled upon "Rules." These are being discussed, and, as a result, will be reviewed at the next meeting, and then should be everywhere acknowledged and used.—EDITORS.

**Milk - Weed and Pleurisy-Root.**—Mr. L. Posey, of Torch, Ohio, sent us some flowers to be named, and wrote concerning them as follows on June 25, 1892 :

I send you a spray of flowers which I would be pleased to have named. I have 6 colonies of Italian bees, and they are doing a big business just now on this same flower, and, strange to say, I cannot find a solitary black bee working on them, although there are quantities of blacks right close to my Italians. Can you offer any cause why this flower seems to be the exclusive property of the Italians? My Italians in dovetailed hives are doing splendid work this season; three of them have 48 sections nearly sealed with white clover honey. Almost all the bees in this neighborhood are blacks, in box-hives, consequently I have no opposition in producing honey.

L. POSEY.

We sent the flowers to Prof. T. J. Burrill, of the Illinois State University at Champaign, Ills., who wrote us as follows about them :

The two specimens inclosed are red milk-weed, *Asclepias incarnata*, and yellow milk-weed, or pleurisy-root, *A. tuberosa*. These flowers are bad traps for black bees, for by their peculiar structure the tongue of the bee gets caught in a slit, and the death of the insect is often a consequence. Italian bees seem to be strong enough to escape, though these do occasionally get fast-

ened in a similar way. Sometimes numerous dead bees can be found on the flowers, or near by. Do they learn to avoid the flowers, as Mr. Posey's observations seem to indicate?—T.J. BURRILL.

**The World's Fair** grounds and buildings, now nearing completion, are so renowned as a most beautiful and interesting spectacle that not only do from 5,000 to 12,000 people a day, at a cost of 25 cents a piece, inspect them, but the great majority of travelers who pass through Chicago devote a day or more to the same purpose. Hundreds of distinguished foreigners, and thousand of prominent men from the various States of the Union have availed themselves of this privilege, and it is not exaggeration to say that all, without exception, have been most agreeably surprised at the splendor and magnitude of what they witnessed, and have departed very enthusiastic over the bright prospects of the Fair. Several hundred of the returning delegates of the late Republican national convention at Minneapolis, inspected the wonders of Jackson Park while in Chicago. Nearly all of the delegates to the Democratic convention at Chicago have done the same. The Exposition authorities have committees to show visitors about and explain details to them.

**The Paper Trade Club** of Chicago, representing nearly all the paper manufacturers of the city, is arranging for an interesting display at the World's Fair. The club expects to put a complete paper mill on the grounds, and show the process of making paper from the pulp to a finished card in the shape of a World's Fair souvenir.

**The Globe Bee-Veil**, which we offer on the third page of this number of the BEE JOURNAL, is just the thing. You can get it for sending us only three new subscribers, with \$3.00.

## CORRESPONDENCE

ON IMPORTANT SUBJECTS.

### Swarming—Its Cause and Control.

BY "MALTA."

There is no doubt that where kept in modern hives, and treated with scientific appliances and care, bees swarm much more frequently than when in their wild state. Many causes have been assigned, and reasons given for this, and many plans suggested for preventing or controlling it; but, to my mind, the one and principal cause of swarming at all has been too much overlooked.

Over-crowding, want of space, etc., are, I believe, quite secondary causes; for cases are common, where no lack of room exists, such as when a colony is established in a roof, while a colony in a crowded hive does not always swarm; and the chief, in fact ONLY cause is the approaching exhaustion of the queen's power to lay fertilized eggs; the natural desire or instinct to increase the number of families only serving to guide the bees in their method of procedure.

It is a well known fact that the queen's limit of producing fertilized eggs depends entirely upon the power and virility of the drone with whom she mates. Cheshire says the spermatozoa yielded by a drone are probably not more than 4,000,000; Leuckart says 25,000,000; other good authorities vary between these, but whoever is right the fact remains that the rate of expenditure of these fertilizing threads, and not the number of years a queen can live, is the measure of the limit of time during which she is of use in the hive, and shortly before that is reached, she must be replaced.

That swarming is more frequent in the cultivated state, than in the free and wild state, proves that this exhaustion is the sole cause of swarming, for while in a state of nature, the queen works at "high pressure" only at certain periods, such as the opening of spring, or when a big honey-flow is on, probably for a month or two at the most; the rest of her time is "under easy steam," and as every economy is practiced, she continues fit for work for three, four, or even five years; but under the guiding hand of man a different routine obtains; he, by means of extra quilts, warmth, early stimulative feed-

ing, ready-built-out combs, brood-spreading, etc., keeps her at "high pressure" for about seven months, "forcing" her without ceasing, or rest, the result being that she becomes rapidly exhausted as regards fertile egg-laying, and after about one year is not fit for much more work.

The colony knows when this state is reached, whether after one or five years' service, and at once decides that she must be replaced by a younger and more capable mother. I maintain that this is done by *supersession, and by supersession only*; but before doing this, instinct teaches them that the duty of increase has to be carried out, and can only be done by swarming for which they immediately prepare. By the time the new colony is established, combs built, stores provided, eggs in all stages, and young hatching, the old queen is quite exhausted; she is then turned out, and a young one reared to take her place.

I feel certain that in every case of a swarm issuing, the old queen is quickly made away with very soon after the new colony is in working order, and if the combs on which a swarm has been hived are examined late in the season, one or two old queen-cells will invariably be found, which can only mean supersession.

Again, when a queen begins to fail, she begins to lay drone-eggs—a young fertile queen never does. The presence of many drones is a sign of imminent swarming, and many drones can only be produced by a failing queen, or, in other words, swarming becomes imminent as the queen becomes exhausted, and only at such a time.

A swarm frequently builds large quantities of drone-comb, which is generally accounted for by saying the bees are getting so much honey, and have so little expenditure that it is to economize wax and time. No! a bee is not so improvident as to build, from laziness, what will in the future be a nuisance—it is a matter of necessity. The queen is nearly exhausted, and lays drone-eggs more and more freely every day; these must be accommodated, hence the drone-comb. When she is gone, and no more drone-eggs are produced, then, and not until then, will these cells be found filled with honey; for the young queen has no use for them.

I am further led to the conclusion that approaching exhaustion of the queen's fertility is the only cause of swarming, by my experience with different races of bees, and different climates. In those

races where the drone is small, swarming is more frequent; but if a queen of such a race is mated with a larger and more powerful type of drone, the resulting stock will run longer without swarming; also, that if "forcing" in any form occurs, either by artificial means or by reason of a climatic lengthening of the working season, so surely does swarming occur at shorter intervals.

It will also account for many of the vagaries of bees, such as a so-called "hunger swarm;" this is only that from some reason swarming at the right time was delayed, but at last the queen is found so exhausted, that it is "now or never." Nature will not allow "never," so it must be "now"—bad as the time may be.

"Swarm from a swarm" is another case. From some secondary cause—say over-crowding—the swarm has issued before the queen was ripe for supersession, so has been allowed to go on, but now her time has come, and the law must be obeyed—increase before her destruction. Late and untimely swarms are due to this cause entirely.

Having thus arrived at the true and sole cause of frequent swarming, the prevention or control is not such a difficult problem: 1. Re-queen frequently, and before the signs of approaching exhaustion show strongly. 2. Take every precaution in rearing not only queens, but the drones with whom they have to mate, for upon the male depends entirely the length of time the queen is of use in the hive, which undoubtedly determines the tendency to swarm.

Panama.

### A Colony of Bees Under the Ground.

L. J. CLARK.

On June 6, I took up and transferred to a frame hive, a wild swarm of bees found by an old man while looking for a place to quarry rock. The tree was a burr-oak, and stood on a steep side-hill in a little hollow that had been washed out by the water—it was at least 200 feet up from the valley, and stood all alone unprotected by other timber, and on the west side of the hill at that. I mention these things because this tree was the best I ever took up in the spring, and I have taken up more than 100 of them altogether.

The bees were in the root, and went in at least a foot below the ground on the lower side of the tree; the water

had run over a root and washed the dirt and stone away, while on the upper side the dirt was 2 feet higher than the entrance. All the brood was below the top of the ground, and most of the honey. They had apparently been there for several years, were very strong in bees, with queen-cells started, also a large amount of drone-brood nearly ready to hatch, and about 40 pounds of fine honey. They would have swarmed within ten days. I have the bees now in my yard, and better workers I never saw.

Now, the past was a very hard winter and spring on bees here (many beekeepers have lost all), and why this colony should be in such prosperous condition in that bleak, exposed situation, is more than I can explain, unless it was because they were below the top of the ground. The cavity where the brood was, was about 12 inches in diameter, and about the same in height, when it ran up the tree about two feet, in two forks, which then came together again. These forks were not more than 3 inches irregular diameter, and the upper cavity some 6 inches one way and 3 the other, by 12 inches high. The whole was packed full of comb, all empty except close to the brood.

Wiscoy, Minn., June 16, 1892.

### Importing the Great Bees of India.

FRANK BENTON.

I have been requested to furnish information regarding the truth of a report recently circulated by the newspapers, to the effect that the Government intended to undertake the importation of the Giant East-India bee, *Apis dorsata*, and that this work was to be entrusted to me. I have deferred somewhat my compliance with the request, hoping later to be able to give definite information—in fact, to be able to say that this work, whose accomplishment has been so long desired by the bee-keepers of both Europe and America, would be undertaken; when the work would be entered upon; and how we proposed to accomplish it. I regretted the appearance of the newspaper reports referred to. They were premature, and wholly unauthorized by myself or any one connected with the Division.

Something over a year ago Dr. C. V. Riley, United States Entomologist, first addressed me in regard to the Government work in apiculture, supposing at

the time that I was still abroad, and that he could secure an authorization for me to proceed to India after *Apis dorsata*, which, he stated, he was very desirous of importing into this country. His letter passed me in mid-ocean, for, after a long self-imposed exile, I was on my way to my native land. It finally reached me in western New York, whither I had gone. We had considerable correspondence about the matter, and, as I learned afterward, it was Dr. Riley's intention to have me endeavor to introduce some other desired insects at the same time. Thus, he had assured prominent fig-growers of California that he would make every effort possible to introduce caprifig insects, which are necessary to the pollinating of the Smyrna fig, this valuable variety not being productive in California solely for want of such distribution of its pollen. He was also quite anxious to introduce certain parasites of well-known injurious insects which have been imported without their natural checks.

Difficulties unforeseen by both Assistant Secretary Willits and Dr. Riley made the postponement of this work imperative. But the subject is again under consideration, with a much better prospect than heretofore that Dr. Riley's desires in this direction can be carried out. This does not, of course, mean a certainty, but merely that the chances are now good for its accomplishment. They will be enhanced if bee-keepers and aparian periodicals make known their desire to see the experiment tried.

I believe the experiment of introducing *Apis dorsata* is worth trying. Mr. Dathe, the only practical bee-keeper besides myself who has visited India in search of *Apis dorsata*, and who followed, in his efforts to introduce this bee into Europe, exactly in my footsteps, agrees with me in the desirability of testing this giant bee. Indeed, at the Frankfort *Wanderversammlung*, where I met him, he proposed to me that we should make the third effort together. Yet I should not like to have any one entertain such great expectations regarding these bees as to cause him to be disappointed if the experiments should not result in all we hope for.

At present the whole undertaking must be viewed *strictly in the light of an experiment*, from which it is, however, possible we may obtain important practical results, and *highly probable* that the direct practical results will at least be sufficient to prove the wisdom of such an expenditure on the part of the Gov-

ernment, though private parties attempting it could hardly hope to recover the cost. In any event, a more extended investigation of the bees of the far East than I was able to make during my stay in India, is greatly to be desired.

How frequently far greater sums of money have been granted to fit out expeditions to go to distant parts of the earth to make observations during an eclipse or transit of some heavenly body, the main object of which might be to determine whether the sun or some star is more or less distant from the earth than was generally supposed! And how often almost the whole benefit to result from such an undertaking depends upon as slender a chance as the presence of clear weather during the few minutes' time the phenomenon lasts! It is far from my purpose even to hint that such work is not valuable, for it adds to the sum of human knowledge; and often the most abstract and apparently useless information proves of great practical use to the world. But I wish to point out how much greater reason there is for attempting work such as the investigation of these Eastern honey and wax producers—work which, viewed abstractly, has a value equal to such undertakings as have been mentioned, and which, at the same time, promises to add another source to our national wealth. And the interest in our pursuit which this work will arouse, when done under the auspices of the National Government, will not fail to rebound to the advantage of apiculture.

#### RESULTS FROM THE UNDERTAKING.

A brief statement of the results which it is hoped might be brought about through this undertaking, will be of interest to all bee-keepers.

1. It is hoped *Apis dorsata* may be domesticated and kept in hives in a manner similar to our ordinary bees; and that this large bee, having a tongue longer than that of ordinary bees, will be able to secure the honey from various blossoms—notably those of red clover—from which our bees get little or nothing. Also, that they will at the same time aid in the fertilization of these blossoms, so that better seed, and more of it, will result, especially in the case of the first crop of red clover produced when bumble-bees are not numerous.

2. An effort would be made to produce and test various crosses between *dorsata* and *mellifica*. If such crosses can be obtained, possibly something more valuable than either of these bees would

result. One is led to think of this by the fact that drones of *dorsata* do not differ greatly in size or general appearance, though somewhat in habit, from ordinary drones.

3. Even if *Apis dorsata* should not prove valuable in domestication, there seems to be no reason why it should not, if introduced and set free in our Southern States, produce there, as it does in the forests of India, great quantities of honey and wax, the latter product (derived almost wholly from *Apis dorsata*) forming an important article of export from India.

4. We may hope to bring to this country *Apis indica*, a bee smaller than our ordinary honey-bee, but an industrious gatherer, which, in quite limited numbers, is kept in hives by the natives of India. It might be found that *A. indica* would visit only smaller flowers than our bees, and thus, even if kept in the same fields, not lessen the yield we obtain from the races already here. It would be no small gain for the apicultural interests of the country if three apiaries could be kept at one point without material interference with one another.

There is also in connection with this undertaking much other work from which we have reason to expect important results. Of this, information will be given in due time. I have no desire to arouse hopes that might prove ill-founded, and thus bring only disappointment.

#### AN ERROR CORRECTED.

In conclusion I wish to ask the indulgence of my readers to enable me to correct an error connected with the subject, but the original source of which I do not know. It first appeared long ago, and has been repeated frequently—even in books on bee-keeping. I refer to the statement that “the first expedition after *Apis dorsata* cost Mr. D. A. Jones, of Canada, a small fortune,” and that in this undertaking I “was the agent of Mr. Jones.” The facts are, the expedition cost less than \$1,000; I was in partnership with Mr. Jones in this work, and it cost me just as much as it did him; moreover, as Mr. Jones did not go to India, but was in Canada at the time, I had the hardships of the work, and the illness which followed my exposure in the jungles, to bear.—*Gleanings*.

Washington, D. C.

Be Sure to read offer on page 37.

#### Cortland Union Bee-Keepers' Convention.

C. W. WILKINS.

On Tuesday, June 14, the bee-keepers and those interested, ladies as well as gentlemen, met with their President, Mr. J. L. Kinney, 2½ miles northwest of Cortland Village, N. Y.

A very pleasant time was enjoyed in informal discussion and apicultural conversation until lunch was announced. After a most excellent repast, to which all did ample justice, the meeting was called to order by the President.

The report of the Secretary was read and accepted; also the Treasurer's report, likewise.

Opportunity was then given, and responded to, for members who were not present at our January meeting, to pay their annual dues.

#### ITALIANIZING AND INTRODUCING.

Discussion was then opened by the question, “What is the best way to Italianize 50 colonies of bees?” It was generally decided that the purchase of one or more pure queens from some reliable breeder, each year or two, would give the apiarist stock from which he could introduce queens to his colonies which were deficient in blood with less pecuniary output than any other method.

C. M. Bean, of McGrawville, remarked how apt our black queens were to live and undergo all manner of hardship, while the yellow queens, which we all so much admire, so easily “come up missing.”

It was unanimously decided that the proper way to introduce an expensive queen was to place her in a nucleus of brood and young bees, when you run scarcely any risk of losing the queen.

The question, “Is it any sign that a colony has a poor queen, because they are weak at this time of the year?” received considerable interesting and spirited discussion, but the most weighty points seemed to be in the negative.

A canvass was made among the members to ascertain the loss in bees during the past winter and spring. It has been a very severe loss in this section. Out of a fall count of over 800 colonies, an average loss of 23 per cent. was realized.

Discussions and remarks were next in order, for determining where we should hold our August picnic. It was finally decided to have it at the Floral Trout Park, Cortland, N. Y., the date to be fixed by the committee.

President Kinney appointed as committee to boom the picnic, the following with their wives:

Messrs. J. H. Kennedy, Cortland; J. H. Manchester, Preble; M. H. Fairbanks, Homer; Miles Morton, Grotton; C. M. Bean, McGrawville; George Green, Dryden; and Marvin R. Wood, Cortland.

The convention then adjourned to meet in a short session at the annual picnic.

C. W. WILKINS, *Sec.*

### Visits Among Iowa Bee-Keepers.

THOS. JOHNSON.

As mentioned in last week's BEE JOURNAL, I was visiting at Denison. About 11 a.m. I went 15 miles east of Denison to West Side, where I found what bees there are in and around the town in good condition, considering the cold spring. The place being more on the highlands, caused a better circulation of air, so that mold and sour stores are not frequently met with, as in the lowlands along the river.

Now I wish to call the attention of the readers to what I discovered at Logan, what some bee-keepers call "spring dwindling." In visiting one apiary I noticed that the owner was taking too much care of his bees, by protecting them from cold air, etc. His yard was arranged so that it could be closed when the wind blows; secondly, all evaporation was gathering on the top, causing great quantities of water to gather, and causing mold, and diseasing his bees in such a way that the poor creatures wanted fresh air, but daring not to make a circulation of air by using their wings, on account of chilling the brood. The bees would venture out, and the result would then be spring dwindling by mold and sour honey, on account of not having proper ventilation.

While at Dow City, one man said it was caused by honey-dew. In looking around I saw that his honey extractor was full of what he called "honey-dew." It looked more like heart's-ease honey than anything else—at any rate nine-tenths of it was granulated. Our experienced and well-informed apiarists say that honey-dew is a secretion of insects; if such is a fact, who ever heard of such secretion granulating, with a liquid covering it?

So much for the learned apiarist at Dow City. My opinion on most of his

loss was on account of meddling with his bees in cold weather, and not having their honey capped. At 6 p.m. I left the place and went to Arcadia.

The next morning I visited the firm of Pruter & Wunder, and I found that the bees in and around the town are doing well, and the loss will not reach 10 per cent., as far as heard from. This information was derived from different bee-keepers of the surrounding country inquiring for bee-supplies.

I saw Mr. H. F. Radden, who had a few colonies, with no loss up to that time. Arcadia and the surrounding country are settled by Germans, and the farmers have just started in the bee-business. Bidding my German friends adieu, I next visited Carroll, which is a railroad town; I call it one of the liveliest places in Western Iowa, for its age. It sprung up about 25 years ago, and has 2,500 population. Not finding any bee-keepers, I left at 3 p.m., and went to Glidden, where I met some old-time friends. Mr. D. N. Smith has a few colonies, having just started in bee-keeping. Mr. J. M. Campbell, the bee-man, had a "queen" up in the post-office that I would rather associate with than the ones in his bee-yard. Mr. G. M. Thorne had 30 colonies, and lost 7 by smothering. Mr. G. W. Hill had 15 colonies, and lost 3 on account of lack of stores. I made a personal examination of Mr. Thorne's bees on April 15, and know whereof I speak.

The loss in Glidden township did not exceed 10 per cent., and all the loss was caused by carelessness in not having sufficient stores and proper ventilation.

I next went to Scranton City, Greene county. In the morning I met Scott Barker and John Garland, they having a great many bees, but their loss will not exceed 5 per cent., spring count. Mr. D. R. Ansden lives one mile west of Scranton City. I intended to visit him, but time would not permit. Mr. A. lives in Carroll county, and is County Supervisor. I learned that his bees, as well as those of other bee-keepers, are doing well, considering the cold, backward spring.

I left at noon for Jefferson, the county seat of Greene county, a railroad junction, with a population of 2,000. Here I met John Dodge, sheriff-elect, who had 10 colonies last year, and obtained 12½ pounds of surplus honey per colony. His loss from Nov. 24, was 5 per cent. Also Mr. Samuel Wise, City Marshall, had quite a start in bees, and his loss will be

50 per cent. or more. In and around Jefferson, the loss in bees in the fall will not be far short of 50 per cent.

I left Jefferson the next morning, and went to Panora; here I met some prominent bee-men, and I found by careful inquiry that the loss would be nearly 50 per cent., cause by lack of stores. Bees are not bred up here very much, as I found only one Italian colony among all I saw.

At 5 p.m. I went to Yale, six miles north of Panora, at one time the county-seat of Guthrie county. Here I found the bees doing better on account of their being on higher ground, where the air has better circulation in the apiaries. I remained all night with Mr. C. G. Pierce, proprietor of the hotel.

At 11 a.m. I arrived at Herndon, and from there I went to Jamaica, three miles east. Mr. B. O. Witter, of that place, obtained 40 pounds of surplus honey from 7 colonies. Quite a number had started in bee-culture here. The loss in the vicinity is counted at 50 per cent., and if all the bee-yards look like the ones I examined, it is a great wonder they have any bees left. I had dinner with Mr. J. C. Tompson, an old acquaintance. I then took the 5 p.m. train for Perry, Dallas county, a place of 3,000 inhabitants. I called on Mr. J. H. Shively, and found that bee-keepers in that neighborhood were somewhat discouraged, not having taken much if any surplus honey last year, and the loss in wintering was 30 per cent.

The next morning I intended visiting Jesse White, Thos. White, and John Flinn, but when I arose, it was raining so hard that it was uncomfortable to travel, and would have been dangerous to undertake examining bees; so at 12:55 p.m. I took the train for Coon Rapids, arriving home at 1:40.

I looked at my yellow bees, which are the best honey-gatherers that we have in western Iowa, and found that during all my travels, of about six weeks, I had not lost a colony. What is the reason? First, because they are of the best honey-gatherers, from the best queen-breeders I could select. Secondly, I did not meddle with them in cold weather. Third, I examined them and gave them stores where such was needed. I am proud of my 60 colonies of bees, which are in four different yards.

I now bid the readers of the BEE JOURNAL adieu for awhile, especially as regards the description of travels, as my bees will require my attention.

Coon Rapids, Iowa.

## The Dibble Self-Hiving Arrangement.

WESLEY DIBBLE.

I use the James Heddon bottom-board and stand,  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch rim on bottom-board, except the front, and 2-inch on side corner. The front I use perforated metal to confine the queen on the combs, and allows the bees free access to the hives; and it furnishes no roosting-place for bees to cluster in the shade. The 2-inch space is furnished with a button which closes this space when the trap is not in use. This trap hangs on the bottom-board by tacking a strip of tin 3 inches long on each end. On the trap is a similar tin which shoves behind, and firmly holds the trap to its place. I use either trap as a queen-catcher, or to hive bees automatically. As a queen-trap I use it as shown, closing the outlet. As a self-hiver, connect the outlet of the trap with the adjoining hive; prepare the hive with one dry comb, if convenient.

Even though I have worked hard, and have been determined to get an even full-sized swarm every time in the empty hive, I have not accomplished the object. Yet with this trap, and the man who tells you he can with any trap, it will probably pay you to investigate a little before investing largely. I speak now of hiving on the side. The results I get will vary from one pint to a full-sized swarm going with the queen to the new hive. I don't care which when I use the extra hive. I generally use it for increase; and when I find a swarm of bees that has swarmed in my absence (prepared as above), I shake as few or as many bees with the new swarm as desired, and remove the old hive to a new and permanent location.

This work can be done at any time, from one hour to four days, usually. It must be done before the young queen hatches. If you are a farmer, mechanic, doctor, or preacher, do it any time you have the time to do it.

This arrangement furnishes me positive proof that my queens are cared for, and not returned to the hive to be killed, which will often happen. It furnishes me instant proof that this colony of bees has swarmed, and needs attention. Without extra labor I can pass down a row of hives, and each hive tells its own story. You have noticed, probably, that a newly-hived swarm of bees works with a will that you will seldom see at any other time; and if I had the time, and not too many bees, I would hive all of

my bees by natural swarming, and use the old hive as a feeder to the new one by setting it on one side, in such shape and form as to cause the field bees to return to the old home. I think that no other management will produce better results for surplus honey, and little or no increase.

Please allow me to go back a little to the upright trap (described last week), and say that, if you want a full-sized swarm up-stairs with the queen, without any assistance, use the bottom-board between the two hives only, and a hole or a connection in it with perforated metal tacked on. An inch hole is sufficient. If you want everything in bees up-stairs, put a bee-escape in place of the metal. Every bottom ought to be supplied with vent for air, and so arranged as to close when not wanted.

I have studied days and weeks and nights to perfect a trap, or traps, that

and when you do not want them any more, the bees belong to that colony. It needs no extra preparation for uniting or building up nuclei.

I use it to prevent swarming, by taking the comb the queen is on, bees and all, in the receiver when the colony is preparing to swarm; and I hold her there until I care to return her to the colony she came from, or any other.

I use it to introduce queens, or supersede any queen I wish to dispose of. No time is lost in egg-laying; no queens are lost in introducing. If for want of time, or I cannot find the queen when exchanging the queen to the comb-receiver, or any other carelessness or absent-mindedness, I am arranging for such emergencies to let the traps return the queen to the receiver. Either trap will do it; and when I have an out-yard marked to return in four days, I know everything is all right. I can sleep bet-



*The Dibble Automatic Swarmer.*

would allow me time to care for bees from home. I expect to keep right on studying.

I don't want it understood that I care for my different yards of bees alone, and allow my bees to swarm to their heart's content. No, sir; I don't do it.

It may be a little new, perhaps, but I am preparing now, ready for use, a comb-receiver for every hive of bees. I hang it on the side of an eight-frame hive, with openings between it and the brood hive, so constructed that it is open for queen, bees and all to pass in either apartment, or perforated metal, to separate queens only. If more than one, or close, it entirely separates the comb-receiver from the hive.

I use this comb-receiver for the following purposes: As a feeder, a nucleus hive supplied with bees from the same colony, attached to it or any other. My queens are all mated from them. Every strong colony is a nucleus; every nucleus is a strong colony of bees, using it at any time or all times when wanted;

ter by knowing it. I know this location. Everybody ought to know his location well enough to know when to expect honey, and about when to proceed as above. At times, when only occasionally a swarm issues, let the trap do the work; time is money, and bee-keepers must adopt new methods if they succeed at the present price of honey.

Bee-keeping is the most enticing business I know anything about; and I have never known a genuine bee-man to give up the business, who ever succeeded in anything else. He is spoiled for any other occupation.

I received a patent May 3, 1892, for my side trap; patent applied for an upright trap and other things connected with it. When these traps get clogged with hundreds of dead drones, clear them. Several swarms at one time will often all unite and cluster together.

I hear of heavy losses of bees all around me. My loss is less than 3 per cent. Young queens out mating will often lead swarms off.—*Gleanings.*

**CONVENTION DIRECTORY.***Time and place of meeting.*

- <sup>1892.</sup>  
July 21.—Carolina, at Charlotte, N. C.  
A. L. Beach, Sec., Steel Creek, N. C.  
Aug. 17.—Wabash Valley, at Vincennes, Ind.  
Frank Vawter, Sec., Vincennes, Ind.  
Aug. 27.—Haldimand, at S. Cayuga, Ont.  
E. C. Campbell, Sec., Cayuga, Ont.  
Sept. 7, 8.—Nebraska, at Lincoln, Nebr.  
L. D. Stilson, Sec., York, Nebr.  
Oct. 7.—Utah, at Salt Lake City, Utah.  
John C. Swanson, Sec., Salt Lake City, Utah.  
<sup>1893.</sup>  
Jan. 13, 14.—S.W. Wisconsin, at Boscobel, Wis.  
Benj. E. Rice, Sec., Boscobel, Wis.

In order to have this table complete, Secretaries are requested to forward full particulars of the time and the place of each future meeting.—THE EDITORS.

**North American Bee-Keepers' Association**  
PRESIDENT—Eugene Secor, Forest City, Iowa.  
SECRETARY—W. Z. Hutchinson... Flint, Mich.

**National Bee-Keepers' Union.**

PRESIDENT—James Heddon, Dowagiac, Mich.  
SEC'Y AND MANAGER—T. G. Newman, Chicago.

**SELECTIONS FROM  
OUR LETTER BOX**

**REPORTS, PROSPECTS, ETC.**

Do not write anything for publication on the same sheet of paper with business matters, unless it can be torn apart without interfering with either part of the letter.

**Working on the White Clover.**

Bees are booming on white clover, but there has been little swarming so far.

H. H. BROWN.  
Light Street, Pa., June 24, 1892.

**The Apiary Ground, Etc.**

On page 832 of the BEE JOURNAL for June 23, Mr. S. C. Booher asks how to keep an apiary yard free of grass, and mentions a cement floor. Such a yard would be extremely hot, and no doubt it would have some influence towards starting the vice of absconding, which, at times, renders apiaries nearly worthless. Moreover, bees will be less profitable if the colony is overheated. I should prefer the most pleasant lawn that could be produced, instead of heated

cement, coal-ashes, or barren ground of any kind, even if a queen was lost occasionally.

Mr. B. is also quite right in regard to taking bees from the cellar too early. They should not be placed on the summer stands until there is plenty of pollen to gather.

J. H. ANDRE.

Lockwood, N. Y.

**Expects a Good Fall Crop.**

I have 44 colonies, but they are very light in bees. I had one swarm on June 25. It is so wet here. I look for a good crop of fall honey.

E. S. HOVEY.

Swanton, Iowa, June 27, 1892.

**Great Crop of White Clover.**

My bees have not done much on account of the wet weather. There is a great crop of white clover, and if the weather is favorable, I think the prospects will be good for a honey crop. I had one very large swarm on May 6, and one on May 18. I use the Tinker hive, which, I think, is the best hive made for comb honey. I had one colony of Italian bees in a Tinker hive last season, and took from it 61 pounds of comb honey.

N. W. SHULTZ.

Shreve, Ohio, June 26, 1892.

**Swarm-Catchers—Prosperous Season.**

I notice on page 806, that Mr. Henry Durham, of Indiana, claims to have made and used a swarm-catcher two years ago, that has been patented by a bee-keeper in Minnesota a few weeks ago. I do not think that the latter can claim priority of invention. I also made and used the same swarm catcher two years. I have had three of them in use in my apiary since June, 1890, and now have five. Mine was not exactly the same shape, but it covers all the claims that the one just patented can claim. It does not appear to me that the patent is valid. I have had some experience in patents, and if I understand the patent law rightly, it does not allow patents to be issued on any article that has been in use for two years, or more, by other parties. I am prepared to show, beyond a doubt, that I have made and used this same invention for two years, and I presume that Mr. Durham can show the same thing.

I had intended to describe my swarm-catcher in the BEE JOURNAL, and give

my fellow bee-keepers the benefit of its use, without having any royalty attached thereto. I hope this will meet the eye of some one who is prepared to answer whether any one can slip into the Patent Office and put a clincher on an article that his neighbors have had in use for two years or more; then turn around and charge three or four prices for it.

The swarming season is just at hand, and the bees are generally in fine condition. The fruit-bloom is now past, and the white clover never showed up any better than it does now, for this time of the season. Everything now points to a prosperous season for the Minnesota apiarist.

C. H. POND.

Kasson, Minn., June 20, 1892.

#### An Experience in Shipping Bees.

In May I sent to New York State for a nucleus colony and queen; they came all right, until they got to this end of the route, and some one cut a hole in the screen, and let most of the bees out. I was at the express office when they came, and one of the train men said there was a few bees in the car. I set out not to take them, and make the express company pay for them. It was very hot, the depot master was away, and his son was left to see to things. If I left the bees they would have to be shut up in a small room all night, and I pitied them, so I paid the express charges on them, and took them home. By taking extra care of them, I shall have a fair colony by fall. The wire was cut with a knife about three inches long, and a piece of paper stuck on with wax to keep the bees in that had not escaped.

CHARLES E. HOLLEY.

West Farmington, Me., June 25, 1892.

#### Italian Bees in Combs of the Blacks.

On page 638, of the BEE JOURNAL for May 12, Mr. J. M. Pratt says: "I believe the cause of much dissatisfaction with the Italian bees is, that bee-keepers buy queens of some good breeder, and introduce them to colonies of black bees, and the queens are forced to lay in cells built by the black bees, which are too small for pure Italians. Of course, the bees will then be no larger or better than the common blacks."

Mr. Pratt seems to think that the black bees are the smallest, but I think that he is wrong. If he will examine both the Italians and blacks, when they are not loaded with honey, he will find

that the blacks are slightly larger than the Italians. The Italian bees have larger honey-sacs than the blacks, and of course they will seem larger when loaded, than the blacks, when, in reality, they are smaller. I do not think that breeding Italians in comb built by the blacks can make them any smaller, or, in other words, prevent them from getting their full growth, unless the comb is too old.

ED. CLARK.

Nat, Ala.

#### Winter Losses and Honey-Dew.

Bees nearly all died in this section last winter. One man near Burlington had about 50 colonies last fall, but has only two left this spring. Out of 30 colonies, I have only 7 left. Nothing but "honey-dew," and that as black as tar, to live on last winter. I think that was the cause of the great fatality.

I. P. WILSON, M. D.  
Burlington, Iowa, June 27, 1892.

#### A Girl's Experience with Bees.

Bees wintered well in this part of the country, and did well until the middle of May, then starvation stopped brood-rearing, so the honey harvest will find many colonies short in bees. My father tried to keep the bees from swarming this spring, and has been successful so far; we have had only one swarm out of 160 colonies. We have about 30 or 40 colonies each with 32 one-pound sections in a super filled with white clover. To-morrow linden begins to bloom, so the bees may get part of a honey crop yet; however, we do not expect as much as in some other years. My father is very busy this spring, and I have to do the largest part of the work with the bees. He gives me orders in the morning about what has to be done, and looks over the work in the evening to see if the work is done right. We fill the supers, and prepare everything for the bees in the winter months, but still it keeps a little girl busy to attend to 160 colonies. Last year we had 240 colonies, and I had to do about all the work alone.

LOUISE SCHUMACHER.

Weston, Mo., June 27, 1892.

**When You Have any honey to sell, get some Honey Almanacs and scatter in your locality. They will sell it all in a very short time.**



COMBED AND EXTRACTED.

**Caring for Empty Combs.**

In the shop cellar we nailed lath on each side of the joists, near the lower edge. On this lath we hung the frames. There not being room to hang them straight across, they were hung on a slant. About an inch space was left between them. If there was to be any great amount of jarring, they might not be very secure, as they have only the thickness of the lath, about  $\frac{1}{8}$  of an inch, to hang on; and, being hung on a slant, they will be more easily knocked down.

There are several advantages in having them hung up in this way. There is not so much danger of their being injured by mice; they are entirely out of the way, as they do not take up any available room, and are very easily got at when wanted. With a free circulation of air, and the coolness of the cellar, the worms will not get at them so early, nor work so rapidly. They are in such condition that they are easily examined, and we will keep close watch of them; and the first trace of worms that we see we will be on hand with brimstone, as they are in excellent shape to fumigate. It is important to take them when the worms are small; for after they are full grown, they will stand an immense amount of brimstone without seeming injury.

But there is one objection: The combs will not be nearly so nice and sweet as when kept by the bees, and, with any reasonable proportion between the bees and combs, I would much rather leave them to the tender mercies of the bees.

—EMMA WILSON, in *Gleanings*.

**"Who is My Neighbor?"**

Any man to whom I can render a kindness is my neighbor. What can you do to help some one? Go and read to that old blind woman, and be sight to the blind. Seek out for yourself some work of practical mercy and help. Do not leave this to a "committee." The Good Samaritan didn't send a committee, he went himself. "Go and do thou likewise." Have you ever visited the hospital or the almshouse, or the prison? Have you ever felt in your heart the

warm currents of blessing flowing in upon your soul, as in the name of Jesus you have helped some sufferer, or lifted some unfortunate one? Don't wait until Christmas, when there is a general outburst of benevolence. Seek out opportunities constantly.

There is a story told of a Russian soldier who, pacing his beat one bitter night, came across a poor man, apparently freezing to death. The soldier took off his warm overcoat and put it on the poor man. The soldier sometime afterwards died. Appearing in heaven, he came before his Saviour, who, to his intense amazement, was clad in his overcoat. "You've got my coat on," said the soldier. "Yes," said the Saviour, "you gave it to me that bitter night. Inasmuch as ye did it to one of the least of these, my brethren, ye did it unto me."—REV. A. W. PATTER, in *Epsworth Herald*.

**A Russian Honey Drink.**

Mr. Wm. R. Ebell, a Russian by birth, has bought 40 acres of ground about three-quarters of a mile outside of the city of Kendallville, Ind., and is making a great effort to establish a colony of Russians. The plan is to carry on all kinds of work and manufacturing. In this manner all the members of the colony will have employment. The part that interests us most is that he is brewing a Russian drink, which is made principally from honey. It is a very popular drink in his country, and used in large quantities. It is kept in public places, and sold about as we sell soda-water in this country. He has already received several barrels of honey.

We think the new honey fresh from the flowers and hives, containing all of its flavor and odor, full of strength, having lost nothing by standing and candying, would make the best drink. We have advised him to buy direct from the bee-keepers when he can get it, sometimes, and especially this time of the year, not a week old. What kind of honey will be the best for the business has not been determined yet. That used in Russia was "strained" honey, very strong, and of all kinds, but we ought to be able to furnish each kind separate. Let him experiment and find out which is best for this purpose. It looks as though this enterprise would use up a large quantity of honey. The drink is not intoxicating.—*Bee-Keepers' Guide*.

**Don't Fail** to read all of page 37.



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## HONEY AND BEESWAX MARKET.

CHICAGO, July 2.—Comb honey is dull and no demand. Selling finest grade white at 15c. With new crop prices will rule firmer. Extracted is scarce and in good demand at 7@7½c. Beeswax, selling at 26c.

S. T. FISH & CO., 189 S. Water St.

NEW YORK, July 2.—No demand for comb honey excepting fancy white. Quite a stock on the market of off grades and buckwheat. New Southerners extracted arriving and sells at from 70@75c. per gallon for choice; 65@70c. for common. Beeswax quiet but firm at 27@29

HILDRETH BROS. & SEGELEN,  
28-30 West Broadway.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., July 2.—The old crop of comb honey is all cleaned up. First shipment of new comb honey this week, which we quote at 18c. for No. 1-lbs.

CLEMONS, MASON & CO.,  
Cor. 4th and Walnut Sts.

CINCINNATI, July 2.—Demand is good for extracted, slow for comb. Supply good of all kinds. Comb, 11@14c. Extracted, 5@8c.

Beeswax is in fair demand, at 25@27c. for good to choice yellow. Supply good.

C. F. MUTH & SON,  
Cor. Freeman & Central Aves.

NEW YORK, July 2.—Demand for comb is very small. Considerable comb honey on the market, of 2nd grade, but no fancy of any account. Some demand for extracted, clover 6@7c.; buckwheat, 5@5½c.; Southern, 65@75c per gal.; Calif., 64@7c. per lb. Beeswax—a little easier, with supply to meet demand, at 25@27c.; 1 to 2 more per lb. for extra select.

CHAS. ISRAEL & BROS., 110 Hudson St.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., July 2.—Old honey is cleaned up, both extracted and comb. New crop will be in about July 10, here.

HAMBLIN & BEARSS, 514 Walnut St.

DETROIT, July 2.—Best white comb honey 12@13c.; but little left to sell. Extracted, 7@8c. Beeswax, 26@27c.

M. H. HUNT, Bell Branch, Mich.

CHICAGO, July 2.—Very little choice comb on market; demand equals supply; sells at 13@15c.; dark, 10@12c. Extracted, very scarce; good demand; white sells at 7@8c., dark, 6@7c. Beeswax is plentiful, fair demand, 25@26c.

J. A. LAMON, 44-46 S. Water St.

MILWAUKEE, July 2.—Demand very moderate, supply average of all grades but common quality. Best 1-lbs., 15@16c.; common, 12@13c. Extracted, white, in barrels, 7c.; in kegs, 7½c. in pails, 7½@8c. Beeswax—demand fair, supply small. Price, 23@28c.

A. V. BISHOP, 142 W. Water St.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 2.—Demand quiet as old crop is nearly exhausted and new crop not in yet. We quote: Extracted, 5½@6 cts. Comb, 1-lbs., 10@11c.; 2-lbs., 6@8c. Beeswax—24@25c.

SCHACHT, LEMCKE & STEINER,  
16 Drumm Street.

NEW YORK, July 2.—Demand is light, and supply large, except buckwheat comb. We quote: Fancy white comb, 12@14c.; buckwheat, 9@11c. Extracted—Clover and basswood in good demand at 6½@7c.; buckwheat in demand at 5@6c. Beeswax in fair demand at 26@28c.

F. I. SAGE & SON, 183 Reade St.

CHICAGO, July 2.—Selling slowly, trade being in strawberries and other small fruit. No fine comb honey on the market—it would bring 15@16c. Extracted, 6, 7 and 8c., according to quality and kind. Beeswax, 27c.

R. A. BURNETT, 161 S. Water St.

BOSTON, July 2.—Demand is light. White 1-lbs., 13@15c. No 2-lbs. on hand. No Beeswax on hand. Extracted, 7@8c. Demand is light for all.

BLAKE & RIPLEY, 57 Chatham St.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., July 2.—Market is dull in general, though some is being worked off, but mostly at cut prices. Fancy white, 15@17c., 1-lb. sections; dark, 8@10c. Extracted white, 7@8c.; dark, 5@6c.

STEWART & ELLIOTT.

ALBANY, N. Y., July 2.—Demand is very little, and market quiet. We are selling some Florida new orange-blossom extracted honey to good advantage. Beeswax—28@30c.

H. R. WRIGHT, 326-328 Broadway.

NEW YORK, July 2.—Demand moderate, and supply reduced, with no more glassed 1-lb nor paper cartons, 1-lb. We quote: Comb, 1-lb, 14@15c. Extracted—Basswood, 7½@7¾c; buckwheat, 5½@6½c; Mangrove, 68@75c per gal. Good demand for dark extracted honey. Beeswax, in fair supply, with small demand, at 26@27c.

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